REMARKS

Claims 7-16 are active.

Main claim 7 of the claims is rejected over Purcell, U.S. 4,445,411 in view of Roberson, et al., U.S. 3,779,117. The Examiner considers the chains A and B of Purcell to correspond to one of the chains of the subject application. Claim 7 is proposed to be amended as shown above.

Interview Summary – Applicant's attorney, Gordon D. Coplein, Reg. No. 19,165, makes record of a telephone interview held with the Examiner on March 6, 2009, during which the principal reference to Purcell and the invention were discussed. Applicant's attorney pointed out that in Purcell (Fig. 2), a chain A carries a plurality of spaced apart log pushing dogs P1 and P2 and P3, while another chain B carries a plurality of spaced apart log holding dogs H1, H2 and H3. The chain A moves a log lengthwise to be trimmed in a direction toward the saw blades (S-S of Fig. 10) by one of the pushing dogs D on chain A engaging the rear end of the log to be trimmed and moving it toward the saw blades until the log front end engages one of the holding dogs B on chain B. This secures the log for cutting on the saw blades as it is moved by the chain A between the saws.

Referring to Figs. 4-6, the invention has one chain with pairs of teeth along its length. The two teeth of each pair oppose each other on opposite sides of the chain. The material piece is carried on the chain held between two adjacent pairs of teeth with ends of the piece extending over the sides of the chain. The material pieces held and carried by the chain are carried through the space between a pair of opposing saw blades and the blades cut off the extending ends. This linearizes (squares off) the pieces.

Purcell needs two chains to engage a log along its length. Logs are long, e.g., probably 10 to 40 feet. Purcell (see Fig. 2) carries only one log at a time through the saw blades. Applicant's chain carries many pieces of material at the same time. The material disclosed in the Specification are pieces of coconut shell which are basically 3-5 inches, or so, in length and 2-4 inches, or so, in width.

The invention is for a totally different purpose than that of Purcell. It is designed to move a plurality of pieces of material consecutively between pairs of saw blades and not to move a

single log, as is done in Purcell. Also, it is simpler in construction since there is only one chain and not the two chains of Purcell.

Roberson is cited for teaching generally trapezoidal teeth 42 that are spaced apart. However, the teeth 42 are of the spiked type to engage a log that is to be moved. The invention does not use spiked teeth. The pieces of material are held on the single chain between the teeth of adjacent pairs of teeth.

Accordingly, claim 7 is clearly patentable over the art of record.

During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the proposed amendment to claim 7 appeared to overcome the outstanding rejection.

The other claims in the application depend from claim 7. In view of the allowability of claim 7, the other claims also are patentable and should be allowed.

The amendment should be entered since it clearly places the application in condition for allowance. The proposed amendment to claim 7 does not raise any new issues. It only better defines the operation of the system.

If the amendment is not entered as placing the application in condition for allowance, then its entry is requested for purposes of appeal.

Prompt and favorable action is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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